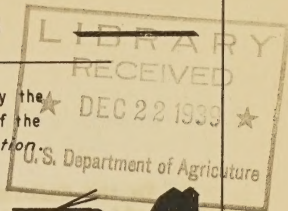


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news letter

Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering of the
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Vol. 1.

November, 1939

No. 5.

Bureau Has Exhibit

A comprehensive exhibit of results of research work and present activities of the various divisions of the Bureau is now open to the public in the patio of the Administration Building of the Department. The opening day was November 13. December 6 has been set as the closing date. Exhibits by other bureaus will follow this first bureau exhibit.

Occupying a space 30 feet long at one end of the patio is a colorful display of a wide variety of biological specimens preserved in transparent blocks of methacrylate resin and plants and flowers preserved in natural colors between flexible sheets or on glass. The method of preserving the specimens in the blocks was perfected by Dr. C. E. Sando. The method of preserving specimens of plants and flowers in the flat and in their natural colors was perfected by Dr. G. R. Fessenden. This brilliant display has proved the greatest attraction of the show.

At the other end of the patio are views of the four regional laboratories now under construction, including a model showing the interior arrangement of a laboratory. This will also be shown later at the Chemical Industries Exposition in New York.

Other exhibits include a full-size experimental fertilizer placement machine; full-size tractor plow equipped with trash guide and self-aligning disk jointer; grasshopper poison bait distributor; seed treater; variable-depth cotton planter; miniature cotton gin, full-size bale of cotton and four small experimental high-compression cotton bales; products in which sweetpotato starch is used; tung nuts and rubber seed, and oils made from these sources and others; examples of conversion of farm products and farm wastes to industrial uses; results of work at the Soybean Laboratory; samples of bread and cookies illustrating baking tests of various mixes; oil treatment of shell eggs, and other processes for improvement of quality of foods; working model showing method for sanitary disposal of cannery wastes; models, photos and slides showing dust explosion prevention and control; instruments used in farmhouse research, and charts showing results of studies; charts and photos of corn and wheat storage and orchard heater studies; model of farmstead buildings for livestock; designs of buildings prepared by Bureau architects; models of turpentine and rosin stills; photos of uses for electricity on farms; samples of commercial fertilizers, and working model showing effect of granulation on free flow of fertilizer; portrayal of use of sodium chlorate in killing weeds; and Christmas tree fireproofed by use of calcium chloride.

In the Information Room adjacent to the main entrance is a photographic exhibit illustrating many of the activities of the Bureau and containing portraits of Dr. Knight, Dr. Skinner, Dr. Browne, Mr. Herrick and Mr. McCrory.

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INDUSTRIAL FARM PRODUCTS RESEARCH

C. E. Senseman, Acting Chief, left Washington on October 16 to visit the U. S. Regional Industrial Products Laboratory at Urbana, Ill., and the Agricultural By-Products Laboratory at Ames, Ia., regarding the work of the Division. Accompanied by Dr. R. T. Milner, Director of the Soybean Laboratory, Mr. Senseman met and conferred with Dr. C. H. Bailey and Dr. W. F. Geddes of the University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn., on October 20-21, regarding the cooperative work being done there in connection with the Soybean Laboratory. Mr. Senseman returned to Washington on October 31.

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Ralph W. Frey, in charge of the Hides, Tanning Materials, and Leather Section, has just returned from Seattle, Wash., where he attended on November 4 the Washington State Chemurgic Conference and presented an address on "Western Hemlock Bark, An Untapped Reservoir of Tannin". Mr. Frey gave a resume of the work that the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering has done on western hemlock bark and outlined for the consideration of the conference a long-range, large-scale program of research designed to answer definitely whether or not western hemlock bark can be profitably salvaged and processed into satisfactory tanning extracts that would find a market in the leather industry.

En route to the West Coast Mr. Frey visited the Regional Soybean Industrial Products Laboratory at Urbana, Ill. on October 24 and 25; and the Agricultural By-Products Laboratory at Ames, Iowa, on Oct. 26.

While on the Pacific Coast Mr. Frey visited the site of the new Western Regional Research Laboratory and conferred with several tanners, representatives of timber interests, and agricultural leaders, particularly with reference to local tanning materials and tannery practices.

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Members of the staff of the Soybean Laboratory attending the fall meeting of the American Oil Chemists' Society at Chicago October 4-6, were Dr. R. T. Milner who presented a paper entitled "A Crystallization Method for the Determination of Saturated Fatty Acids in Soybean Oil", W. H. Goss who presented a paper entitled "Physical Properties of Mixtures of Soybean Oil and Solvents," F. R. Earle, and F. G. Dollear. Dr. K. S. Markley, formerly on the staff of the laboratory, presented a paper on the "Smoke, Flash, and Fire Points of Soybean and Other Vegetable Oils."

Dr. G. H. Brother spent October 24 and 25 in New York City attending meetings of Committee D20 on Plastics of the American Society for Testing Materials.

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On October 25-27 A. J. Lewis of the Soybean Laboratory attended the Federation of Paint and Varnish Production Clubs in Chicago, Ill.

Among the visitors to the Soybean Laboratory in October were: Dr. Evald L. Skau of the Southern Regional Research Laboratory, Prof. A. W. Peirce of the University of Adelaide, South Australia, and J. E. Barr, Senior Marketing Specialist of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Agricultural By-Products Laboratory, Ames, Iowa.

Dr. R. D. Coghill of the Northern Regional Research Laboratory visited the laboratory on October 25 and 26, and conferred with various staff members regarding the work being carried on here.

Dr. S. I. Aronovsky accompanied Dr. E. C. Lathrop of the Northern Regional Laboratory on a tour of commercial plants from October 28 to November 4. Among the plants visited were the Chrysler Corporation, Reichhold Chemical Company, and the Ford Motor Company rubber and plastics laboratory, all in the vicinity of Detroit; the Dow Chemical Company at Midland, Michigan; the Baker Perkins Company at Saginaw, Mich. the Mead Corporation mill at Chillicothe, Ohio; and the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, plant No. 2, at Akron, Ohio. Dr. Aronovsky also conferred with officials of the General Motors Research Corporation in Detroit on his way back to Ames.

Dr. W. V. Cruess of the University of California, at Berkeley, called at this laboratory on October 20 in regard to fermentation work.

T. R. McElhinney resigned on November 3 to accept a position with Valentine Sugars, New Orleans, La., as director of plastics research. T. F. Clark has been assigned to take over Mr. McElhinney's work on plastics.

P. W. Killian of the Office of Information of the Department spent November 8 at the laboratory taking photographs, in a complete series, of all research work being conducted here.

Geo. E. Ward of the Division at Washington was a caller on Oct. 28.

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CARBOHYDRATE RESEARCH

C. F. Walton Jr., is now in the South for seasonal field work on sugarcane products. He will visit the Bureau field stations in Alabama and Louisiana, and will continue work being conducted in cooperation with State agencies, farmers' cooperatives, and certain individual operators in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

R. T. Balch is at the Houma, La. field station, conducting seasonal investigations on the deterioration of sugarcane during storage.

G. P. Walton attended the National Beekeepers' and American Honey Producers' Convention at Sacramento, Calif., Nov. 7 to 10, and presented a paper entitled "The Use of Honey in Making Jams, Jellies, and Candied or Glaced Fruit". Before returning to Washington he will visit honey producers, packers, and others interested in the utilization of honey in California, Colorado, Utah, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Missouri and Ohio.

Emil K. Ventre visited factories of the Eastern beet-sugar producing area and conferred with the technical operating staff of each factory concerning improved operating methods in relation to the production of uniform high quality beet sugar. At Menominee, Mich., he witnessed the operation of the first installation of his method for producing raw sugar. At the Blissfield, Mich. factory of the Great Lakes Sugar Co. experimental work was carried on leading to the development of a more efficient system of sugar production.

Mr. Ventre left the middle of November to visit the Western beet sugar factories where he will hold conferences with the technical staffs of the companies relative to more efficient methods for production of uniform high quality beet sugars.

S. Byall conferred with the chief chemists of each plant in Eastern beet-sugar factories, in regard to the methods they use in analyzing white sugars and discussed the methods as carried out by the Division in determining the uniformity of quality of white beet sugars. He assisted Mr. Ventre in the experimental work at the Great Lakes Sugar Company's factory at Blissfield, Mich.

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING RESEARCH

Dr. David J. Price was in Pennsylvania the early part of November. At Harrisburg he conferred with several State officials on fire prevention matters. At Pennsylvania State College he delivered two lectures "Some Aspects of Dust Explosion Prevention in Industrial Plants", before the Student Society of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, and "The Regional Research Laboratories for the Industrial Utilization of Farm Products", before the Industrial Marketing Section of the Industrial Engineering Department. While in Philadelphia on November 9 he visited the Eastern Regional Laboratory at Wyndmoor and found everything progressing satisfactorily.

Hylton R. Brown attended the National Safety Congress in Atlantic City, October 16 to 20. He served as discussion leader at meetings of the committee which is now working on a revision of the National Safety Council dust explosion pamphlet.

Richard L. Hanson of the Regional Laboratory group made an extended trip through the Middle West, during which he held conferences on laboratory equipment at the University of Illinois; Chicago, and Muskegon, Mich., and also attended the cornerstone laying for the Northern Regional Laboratory.

The report by David J. Price and Hylton R. Brown on the investigation of the dust explosion in the Rosenbaum Grain Elevators in Chicago on May 11 was published in the October Quarterly of the National Fire Protection Association. This explosion resulted in the loss of 9 lives, injured 30 workmen and property loss of \$3,500,000. The investigation has developed the importance of further research work on dust removal

systems for terminal grain elevators. A meeting has been arranged by the Society of Grain Elevator Superintendents of North America to be held in the Chicago Board of Trade on December 6 at which time this subject will be discussed.

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FERTILIZER RESEARCH

On October 26 Dr. Oliver Reynolds Wulf of this Division spoke before the Society of Sigma Psi at the University of Maryland on "Photochemical Processes in the Atmosphere".

Dr. Sterling B. Hendricks left on November 6 to lecture before the local sections of the American Chemical Society in Lexington and Blacksburg, Va., Johnson City, Knoxville, and Nashville, Tenn., Florence, Ala., Chattanooga, Tenn., Birmingham, Ala., Tallahassee, Fla., Atlanta, Ga., Columbia, S.C., and Durham N. C.

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MECHANICAL FARM EQUIPMENT RESEARCH

R. B. Gray left Washington early in November for an inspection trip covering the projects under his direction.

S. W. McBirney early in the month held a demonstration of the variable-cut sugar beet topper at Garland, Utah. The machine worked satisfactorily and did a good job of topping beets of variable size and having different sized tops.

Claude K. Shedd visited the Maizewood Insulation Company at Dubuque, Iowa, and interviewed H. A. Hauptli, Manager of the plant, in regard to harvesting and storing cornstalks for industrial use. The plant is using 10,000 to 15,000 tons of cornstalks annually in the manufacture of Maizewood insulating wall board. Baled stalks are purchased at \$8.00 per ton delivered to the plant. Mr. Shedd was told that stalks should be procurable for about one-half this amount for a reasonable plant profit; also that the development of new machinery and methods of harvesting stalks that would materially reduce costs would be helpful to the industry.

On November 9 Frank Irons attended the Northern Indiana District plowing contest near Edgerton, Indiana and served as one of the judges.

Three papers were prepared bearing on the work at the Tillage Machinery Laboratory at Auburn, Ala., for presentation at the A.S.A.E. meeting to be held at Chicago early in December; "Tillage Machinery Laboratory" by R. M. Merrill, "A Laboratory Study of Soil Reactions on Disks" by E. D. Gordon, and "Use of Power Driven Soil Resistance Recorder for Study of Compaction of Soils by Tractors" by I. F. Reed.

One of the frequent causes of new weed infestations is the presence of viable weed seed in manure. In cooperation with the agronomy department of the Utah Agricultural Experiment Station, E. M. Dieffenbach is investigating the practicability of heating piles of manure to kill the weed seeds by the use of steam from a portable boiler.

G. A. Cumings left Washington November 19 to present reports on fertilizer placement research at the annual meeting of the National Joint Committee on Fertilizer Application in New Orleans, November 21. Mr. Cumings will also attend the meeting of the American Society of Agronomy at New Orleans, November 22-24.

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NAVAL STORES RESEARCH

C. F. Speh returned to the office on November 9 from a three-day trip to Cleveland, Columbus, and Springfield, Ohio.

Dr. Samuel Palkin attended the Symposium on Temperature Measurement and Control of the American Institute of Physics in New York City. He also visited the laboratories of the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company and conferred with their chemists regarding abietic acid, tall oil, and other naval stores products.

Publications:

Government-Style Fire Still Operated Twenty-Four Hours a Day,
(E. L. Patton). Naval Stores Review, 49, 29, p. 22, Oct. 14, 1939.

Noncrystallizing Gum Rosin. U. S. Patent No. 2,176,660, issued
Oct. 17, 1939 (S. Palkin and W. C. Smith).

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PROCESSING OF FARM PRODUCTS RESEARCH

Cotton Ginning Investigations

On October 24, Cotton Ginning Specialists Byrd and Elbert completed their official inspection trips in connection with cotton gins in Missouri, Mississippi, Arkansas and Oklahoma, which had been operating in connection with the AAA cotton export program. It is understood that the cotton from these gins was wrapped in cotton bagging and that the bales are to be compressed as rapidly as export orders are received. A considerable quantity of this cotton is awaiting compression at Newton, Miss. at the present time. The services of the Cotton Ginning Specialists were rendered by the Bureau in cooperation with other Bureaus having interest in the export program.

On October 23 and 24, Angel Tavera and Luis J. Garza, of Mexico, were visitors at the U. S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory. They represented large commercial and agricultural interests in the laguna district of Mexico, where Senor Garza is a grower of cotton, alfalfa, and other crops and has headquarters at Torreon. Senor Tavera has offices in Torreon,

Mexico City, and Buenos Aires, where their company is now developing cotton plantation interests.

The cottonseed used on Mexican and Argentine plantations comes from the Mississippi Delta and Senor Tavera's concern is acting as agent in these countries for the improved varieties of American cotton.

On October 30, Messrs. S. H. McCrory and Chas. A. Bennett left the Ginning Laboratory for Lubbock, Texas, areas to investigate static electricity phenomena at cotton gins in the high plains region. They were met at Lubbock by F. L. Gerdes, Cotton Technologist for the Agricultural Marketing Service, and F. E. Lichte, Cotton Ginning Specialist for the State of Texas. Experimental humidification systems have been installed in two Texas gins, under the direction of Dr. M. E. Heard, who is in charge of Textile Engineering at Texas Technological College. Visits were made not only to the surrounding gins and college activities, but also to the Cotton Experiment Station of Texas A & M, which is operating east of Lubbock under the Direction of Agronomist Don Jones. The cotton stripper of the Agricultural Engineering Department of Texas A & M was operated at the Experiment Station for the benefit of the visitors under the direction of Messrs. Smith and Killough. An excellent job of mechanical harvesting was performed by the stripper on special plots of cotton which had been developed by Mr. Jones. After observing cotton gins in the Lubbock region, Mr. McCrory left Lubbock on November 3, en route to Washington, while the remainder of the party continued cotton gin inspections throughout the following week, returning to Stoneville on November 12.

Cooperative work between the Bureau and Sea Island cotton farmers in Northern Louisiana has resulted in the ginning, to date, of approximately 50 bales of Sea Island cotton on the British-made roller ginning unit of the Laboratory. This gin was furnished with two types of rollers -- one using the conventional covering of spiral walrus hide strips, while the other was made up of disks of walrus hide strung on a rectangular shaft and compressed together by end plates. The spiral covering has thus far given much better results than the disks, which are now being abandoned in favor of the conventional roller covering.

W. G. Beatty, of the Soil Conservation Service, in charge of the horticultural work at Coffeeville, Miss., performed some interesting experiments on threshing pine seeds from pine cones with Rembert fans and receiving apparatus at the Cotton Ginning Laboratory during the week ending November 11. T. L. Baggette, Associate Agricultural Engineer, handled the machinery for the tests and reports that the cotton gin Rembert-type flat disk fans appear to have possibilities in handling pine cones and pine seed without damage.

Surveys on cotton packaging and ginning apparatus were continued. This work is now being transferred for 30 days to West Texas, in order to obtain statistical information on apparatus handling short cottons for parallel studies with those in the Mississippi River regions which have been handling long staple cotton.

Suggestions have been received by the Cotton Ginning Laboratory from several State cotton ginning specialists, with a view to having a short cotton ginning course at the conclusion of the Texas Cotton Ginners' Convention in April of 1940. Exhibits of world-wide interest are made at the Texas Ginners' Annual Conventions and a discussion of latest types of apparatus and methods is recommended at the ginning laboratories as a renewal of the extension and information work in which the laboratories participate.

* * *

PROTEIN AND NUTRITION RESEARCH

Dr. D. Breese Jones attended the annual meetings of the American Public Health Association in Pittsburgh, October 17 to 20. During the past year Dr. Jones has been President of the Food and Nutrition Section of the Association and a member of the Governing Council. The attendance at the meetings was one of the largest on record.

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FARM STRUCTURES RESEARCH

Wallace Ashby inspected bins being manufactured in Anniston, Ala. for storage of shelled corn held by Agricultural Adjustment Administration as Collateral for loans. In these and in bins manufactured at other points it has been necessary to make some minor changes in design before acceptance.

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W. V. Hukill attended the Temperature Symposium of the American Institute of Physics in New York City where he delivered a paper on characteristics of the thermocouple anemometer. He also attended the meeting of the Committee on the Hygiene of Housing of the American Public Health Association in New York.

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A potato grower in Lingle, Wyo. has, after consulting A. D. Edgar, of this division, built a potato storage house following closely the plans recommended as a result of the potato storage studies but has found it necessary to overload the building to take care of his crop. Observations will be made in this house as to the effects of exceeding the recommended capacity.

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Plans are complete for storing 1,600 bushels of this year's grain sorghum crop in the experimental bins at Hays, Kans. In addition 2,000 bushels of last year's crop are being retained for further observation. W. R. Swanson reports that practically all the sorghum in the Kansas-Nebraska areas is dry and therefore in better condition for storage than in some years.

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Observations of shelled corn stored in creosoted boxes made by B. M. Stahl indicate that after one week the corn had absorbed an objectionable odor. Observation by Dr. Barre has previously indicated that

corn stored in creosoted wood bins may be affected as far as four feet from the treated wood.

T.A.H. Miller assisted in a 4-day school for negro farm and home demonstration agents at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. He discussed the use of native materials for low-cost farm housing.

Dr. H. A. Whitaker of the Minnesota State Board of Health conferred with members of the Division in regard to revision of bulletins on sanitation.

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REGIONAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES

Dr. Walter M. Scott has been appointed Chief of the Cotton Chemical Finishing Division of the Southern Regional Research Laboratory at New Orleans. Doctor Scott will be responsible for the scientific and administrative work of the Division, which will involve broad research and development work to improve or modify by chemical treatment cotton fiber, cotton yarns, cotton textiles, and cotton fabrics.

Doctor Scott holds a Ph. B. degree in chemistry from the Yale Scientific School and a Ph.D. degree in organic chemistry from the Graduate School of Yale University. He entered the employ of a large silk manufacturing company in 1915 and was its chief chemist for 11 years. Subsequently he was technical advisor to the dyestuff sales department of a dye and chemical concern and director of sales and service for a color manufacturer. During the last 9 years he has acted as service director for a chemical research and development organization.

During the years of his association with the above mentioned companies, Doctor Scott has specialized in problems connected with the dyeing, printing, and finishing of silk, wool, cotton, and rayon fibers and fabrics, as well as in the field of color measurement and specification. He also has had considerable experience with cellulose esters and others and the various types of synthetic resins. He is the author of more than 40 technical papers and reviews, and has been granted several patents. Doctor Scott is one of the founders of the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists and has been a member of its council and research committee for many years. He is also Chairman of the Textile Dyeing and Finishing Committee of the American Society for Testing Materials, a member of the American Chemical Society, and a Fellow of the American Institute of Chemists. He is a veteran of the World War and at present holds the commission of Lieutenant Colonel in the Chemical Warfare Reserve.

Doctor William J. Sparks, formerly research chemist for a large industrial concern has been appointed Chief of the Oil and Protein Division, Northern Regional Research Laboratory, Doctor Sparks will be in charge of research on the properties and composition of corn and wheat oils and will direct investigations on the chemical modification of vegetable oils to improve and widen certain of their industrial uses. He will also be in charge of the development of wider industrial utilization of corn proteins.

Doctor Sparks was born in Indiana and holds the A.B. and A.M. degrees from Indiana University. He received his Ph.D. degree in chemistry from the University of Illinois. He has been connected with a number of large chemical companies as research chemist working on the improvement and development of paints, insecticides, dyes, and synthetic organic chemicals. His publications include contributions dealing with the preparation of synthetic fuels and of structural materials, such as synthetic rubber, by the chemical conversion of natural products. His patents and patent applications in these and other fields number more than forty.

Dr. Lawrence F. Martin has been appointed Senior Chemical Engineer in the Chemical Engineering and Development Division of the Southern laboratory.

Doctor Martin holds a Ph. D. degree in organic chemistry from the University of Illinois, after having been trained in chemical engineering at Tulane University. For six years after graduation he was engaged in research and development in the Organic Research Division of the Dow Chemical Co., at Midland, Mich., and was issued a number of patents assigned to that company. He spent three years in independent research at Tulane University before being appointed Associate Chemist in the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, in 1936. His previous work with the Bureau has been upon fundamental studies of tobacco mosaic and other plant viruses, on which several papers have been published. He has also had charge of construction of the Bureau's air driven ultracentrifuges, for use in fundamental protein and colloid investigations.

H. T. Herrick, T. L. Swenson, M. J. Blish, J. H. Shollenberger, and R. W. Frey attended the meeting of the State Farm Chemurgic Council in Seattle, Wash., on November 3-4. Mr. Herrick gave a paper entitled "Development and Objectives of the Four Regional Laboratories with Particular Reference to the Western Laboratory," Mr. Frey delivered a talk on "Western Hemlock Bark an Untapped Reservoir of Tannin", Mr. Shollenberger spoke on "Some Production and Utilization Aspects of the Wheat Situation", and Dr. Blish on "Wheat Protein in Relation to Industrial Utility".

Mr. Frey visited the Industrial By-Products Laboratory at Ames and the Regional Soybean Industrial Products Laboratory at Urbana en route to Seattle, and accompanied Mr. Herrick and Dr. Swenson to Vancouver and other Western points, and conferred with tanners and others with reference to the industrial utilization of agricultural products.

Dr. Blish met Mr. Shollenberger in the West and together they will soon conclude an extensive tour of the Northwest studying problems relating to the development of new industrial uses for the proteins of wheat, alfalfa, seeds, and kernels in connection with programs of work of the Laboratories, and particularly the work of the Cereal Proteins Division of the Western laboratory. "The Grains of Argentina", was the subject of a talk given by Mr. Shollenberger before informal gatherings of grain dealers during this trip.

Dr. K. S. Markley and Dr. E. L. Skau have just returned from the South, where they visited state experiment stations and cottonseed and peanut crushing centers in a study of processing practices.

R. J. Cheatham attended the meeting of the Cotton Textile Institute in New York on October 25, and conferred with textile operators in New York with reference to the work of the Cotton Processing Division of the Southern laboratory.

Dr. P. A. Wells and Dr. H. D. Lightbody drove to Charlottesville, Va., on November 3, accompanied by Dr. L. F. Martin, Dr. H. Lineweaver, Dr. R. W. Jackson, Dr. M. J. Copley and Sam R. Hoover, to confer with officials of the Rouss Physical Laboratory, University of Virginia, with reference to the use of newer types of ultracentrifuges.

Dr. L. B. Howard gave a talk on the "Northern Regional Research Laboratory" before the Peoria section of the National Association of Power Engineers" on November 3, and before the Steuben Club of Peoria on Nov. 9.

The meeting of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers at Providence, R. I., on November 15-17 was attended by E. A. Gastrock, P. Burke Jacobs and E. C. Lathrop of the Regional Laboratory staff.

Dr. Lathrop is now traveling in the New England States visiting industrial concerns in connection with the development of processes for utilizing agricultural wastes.

De. D. F. Smith has recently returned from Cincinnati, Detroit, Buffalo and other points where he studied the design of alcohol pilot plant equipment and drying and evaporating equipment used by industry with a view to determining practicability for use in the Northern laboratory.

P. Burke Jacobs accompanied Dr. Smith to Cincinnati and also made investigations in Muncy, Pa., Philadelphia and New York, with reference to the same project.

Dr. Richard Wiebe met Dr. Smith in Detroit en route from Peoria, Ill., where he was in connection with his work at the Northern laboratory. Fuel testing equipment was investigated at motor car and other industrial plants in Detroit.

T. M. Shaw and L. M. White are in New Orleans attending the meeting of the Soil Science Society of America being held November 22-24. Mr. Shaw will present a paper entitled "Notes on Mechanical Analysis" and Mr. White will speak on "The Relationship Between the Chemical Composition of a Fertilizer and Its Proper Placement in the Soil". A paper by Dr. I. C. Feustel on "The Present Status of Research Relating to the Use of Peat and Muck as Soil Amendments" also was read. While in the South Mr. White will visit chemical laboratories and confer with representatives of industry and others with reference to composting and other utilization of organic waste materials.

Miss Myrtle Mohagen of the Northern laboratory is in Washington attending to administrative matters pertaining to the laboratory.

Mr. George P. Wolf of the Eastern laboratory is now in Washington in connection with administrative matters of the Eastern laboratory.

Paul R. Dawson has gone to New Orleans and will travel extensively in the South during December obtaining information in connection with the program of work of the Analytical Section of the Analytical and Physical Chemical Division of the Southern laboratory.

Dr. B. A. Brice recently was in New York serving as a witness for the Food and Drug Administration in a trial on a seizure of olive oil that the government alleged contained a high percentage of tea-seed oil as shown by the Fittelson color test. Dr. Brice had made a study of ultraviolet absorption spectra of tea-seed oil and olive oil with a view to detecting adulteration of olive oil with tea-seed oil. He examined the seized oils in the case and presented evidence that the olive oil was not pure olive oil and that it had ultraviolet absorption characteristics of a mixture of tea-seed oil with olive oil. The test used by Dr. Brice is entirely independent of Fittelson's color test for tea-seed oil.

Dr. W. M. Scott is now in the New England States conferring with representatives of industry, colleges, and others interested relative to the finishing of cotton textiles and possible textile cooperative work in connection with the research program of the Southern laboratory.

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Changes in Personnel

Recent Appointments - Indefinite or Probationary

John David Cranford	Unskilled Laborer - wae (Laurel, Miss.)	Carbohydrate Res. Div.
Luther F. Deroche	Laborer - wae 'Houma, La.)	" " "
Ruth K. Hoffman	Senior Stenographer	Ind. Farm Prods. Res.
Robert D. Fagaly	Under Sci. Helper- part time (Urbana, Ill.)	" " " "
Worth Huff Rodebush	Prin. Chemist - wae (Urbana, Ill.)	" " " "
Melbourne D. Wallace	Under Sci. Helper - wae (Logan, Utah)	Food Res. Div.
Roy W. Riemenschneider	Biochemist - - -	" " "
Joanna E. Troutman Pope	Jr. Clerk-Stenographer part time (Weslaco, Tex.)	" " "
William J. Sparks	Prin. Chemist (Peoria, Ill)	No. Reg. Res. Lab.
Walter M. Scott	Prin. Chemist (New Orleans, La.)	So. Reg. Res. Lab.
John Godfred Wiberg	Laborer- wae (St. Paul, Minn)	Div. of Structures
Allen Clark Hudson	Agent (Athens, Ga.)	" " "
Stanley A. Hall	Junior Chemist	Naval Stores Res. Div.

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Recent Appointments - Temporary

Naomi Jeanne Wilson	Under Clerk-Typist	Bus. Admin. Div.
Mrs. Christine G. LeCourt.	Jr. Steno. (New Orleans, La.)	So. Reg. Res. Lab.
Eugene Burton Conner	Assoc. Sanitary Engineer	Plans & Ser. Div.
Mrs. Shirley Trecht Camins.	Jr. Steno.	" " " "
Mrs. Harriet Rice	Junior Typist	Food Research Div.
Mrs. Rosalie Bee Weiss	Jr. Clerk-Steno.	Cotton Gin. Invs.
	(Stoneville, Miss.)	

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Separations

Charles Elbert	Cotton Gin. Specialist	Cotton Ginning Inv.
	(Stoneville, Miss.)	" " "
Julius F. Byrd	Cotton Gin. Specialist	" " "
	(Stoneville, Miss.)	
Irene Kramer	Asst. Clerk-Stenog.	Bus. Admin. Div.
	(Resigned)	" " "
Mary F. Green	Asst. Clerk-Stenog.	" " "
	(Resigned)	
Elfrieda Egbert	Head Operator (Bookkeeper)	" " "
	(Resigned)	
Leo V. Navitsky	Associate Architect	Plans & Service Div.
John Lancaster Swinnerton	" " "	" " " "
Frederick Joseph Heldrich	" " Engr.	" " " "
Carl Conrad Pribek	Associate Architect	" " " "
Herbert Fred Ziegler	" " "	" " " "
Ronald Thomas Bowman	Sr. Engr. Draftsman	" " " "
	(Mechanical)	" " " "
Willard Lindley Bundy	Asst. Structural Engr.	
Edmond A. Becnel, Jr.	Jr. Sugar Technol.	Carbohydrate Res. Div.
	(Meridian, Miss.)	

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